

App. No. 09/917,397
Preliminary Amendment

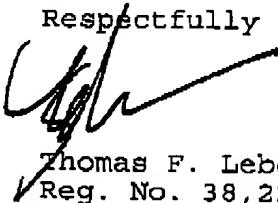
R E M A R K S

Consideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 30 through 64 have been added. Sixty-Four claims are pending in the application: claims 1 through 64.

By way of this amendment, Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that Examiner telephone the undersigned at (858) 587-7644 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Please charge Deposit Account 06-1135 for any fees required by this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas F. Lebens
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Dated: 3-DECEMBER-2001

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